

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Bureau of Environmental Remediation, Remedial Section

State Water Plan Contamination Remediation Program



Dighton Airport Property

Background:

The Dighton Airport Site is located northwest of Dighton (beyond city limits) in Lane County. Historically, several agricultural spraying companies have operated at the airport. KDHE's district staff collected a soil sample from the airplane cleanout area in 1991. Laboratory analytical results indicated the presence of two pesticides, toxaphene and dieldrin, above residential cleanup standards. The site was classified as an orphan site and transferred to the State Water Plan Contamination Program (SWP) in 2001 since a viable responsible party could not be identified.

In order to define the extent of contamination, the SWP initiated a Comprehensive Investigation of the site in September 2001. It was determined that groundwater had not been impacted, but that surface and near-surface soils across the site had been contaminated above residential cleanup levels for several pesticides. In the airplane cleanout area, dieldrin was encountered above non-residential cleanup standards.

Solution:

A Corrective Action Study conducted in 2003 determined that a limited excavation of the cleanout area was the most cost-efficient remedial action at the site. Excavation activities were initiated by KDHE in June 2004. Sixty-five cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated and transported for disposal at the Finney County Landfill. The excavated area was backfilled and reseeded.

Benefits:

- Removed direct contact risk of pesticide-contaminated airborne dust.
- Removal of 65 cubic yards of contaminated material.
- 400 square feet of ground surface cleaned up and available for reuse.



Offloading of contaminated soil for disposal.



Excavation of toxaphene and dieldrin soil.